(c) whether the claims of Tamil Nadu Government that Jatropha has lately been found to yield such fuel, has been verified by Government and what decision has since been taken on the said proposal and what steps taken to promote the cultivation of such bio-fuel yielding crops?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of Tamil Nadu has not made any specific proposal to this Ministry for cultivation of Jatropha, sweet sorghem and sugarbeet on wastelands like the hills of Coimbatore to meet about 5% of the country's fuel requirement from bio-diesel and bio-petrol, produced from seeds/stalks of these crops. However, the State Government has reported that they have launched a programme to promote cultivation of these crops as part of a strategy to revive the agricultural sector in the context of the water stress in the State. In this connection, in July 2004, the Chief Minister had written to the Prime Minister for provision of a comprehensive package, including *inter alia* necessary incentives for rapid development of the bio-fuel sector with raw material inputs from these crops.

(c) In recognition of the potential that Jatropha plant has, in providing oil that can be blended with diesel from fossil fuels, the Planning Commission has brought out a report on development of bio-fuel and suggested the launching of a National Mission on Bio-Diesel to promote cultivation of Jatropha on a large scale in the country, particularly on forest and non-forest wastelands.

Manpower structure of Jute Manufacturers Development Council

*111. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the draft comprehensive policy on jute has identified several loopholes in the existing manpower structure of Jute Manufacturers Development Council;

(b) whether the report has suggested complete overhaul of the organization; and

(c) if so, salient deficiencies detected in the system and action plan of Government to streamline the process?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) The Comprehensive Jute Policy has not been finalized. The existing

manpower structure of the Jute Manufacturers Development Council is adequate.

Potential of wind energy to meet power deficit

*112. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether expanding at rate of over 30 percent per annum, the wind energy sector in India promises to emerge as an economically viable option to meet current power deficit of the country;

(b) whether with 100's of wind turbines producing clean green energy at an economically competitive cost, the Indian wind energy market is emerging as the third most rapidly growing wind market in the world after German and Spain; and

(c) if so, what are steps Government propose to take to improve wind energy further in the country to meet power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Grid interactive Wind Power installed capacity has progressively increased from about 250 MW in 2002-03 to about 500 MW in 2004-05 (April-December, 2004) with an average annual growth rate of about 25%. A cumulative installed capacity of 2980 MW has been achieved as on 31.12.2004 in the country. Wind power requires a set of incentives to remain competitive, including preferential tariff. Considering that the potential for setting up wind power projects exists only in 10 States, the intermittent nature of such power supply and its low capacity utilization factor, wind power is expected to play a supplemental role. However, the aim is that 5% of additional grid interactive power installed capacity would come from wind energy during the 10th and 11th plan periods.

(b) The Country currently ranks at fifth position in the world after Germany, USA, Spain and Denmark in the wind power installed capacity. During the first two years of the Tenth Plan, 10% of the additional grid interactive power installed capacity has come from wind energy.

(c) Wind power progress in the country till date is highly satisfactorily. Apart from preferential tariff in most potential States, few major components of wind electric turbine systems attract a concenssional rate of custom